

## **ABSTRACT**

A method and an agent for inhibiting the oligomerization of procaspase-1, a method and an agent for inhibiting the activation of procaspase-1, a method and an agent for inhibiting the production of caspase-1, a method of preventing and/or treating an inflammatory disease, and an agent for preventing and/or treating an inflammatory disease, all of which comprise inhibiting the binding of NOD2 to procaspase-1; a method of identifying a compound that inhibits the binding of NOD2 to procaspase-1; and a reagent kit for use in the identifying method are provided.